

is “some possibility” that States will not be able to launch their health care exchanges.

Mr. Speaker, we’re 6 months away, and the insurance exchanges are the very centerpiece of the functioning of this health care law, and they’re essential for the President’s law to operate.

The Federal Government has spent 3 years, well over \$3 billion, assisting the States in implementing these exchanges; but the administration is now left only with the hope that it is “not a Third World experience.” A Third World experience.

It doesn’t end there. Henry Chao, a Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services official overseeing the exchange technology, said in the same article when discussing back-up plans should the exchanges not be operable come October, “We are having discussions, but they are not fully baked yet.”

October is just around the corner. “Not fully baked yet” doesn’t even sound like it’s in the oven.

IT’S TIME TO BALANCE THE BUDGET

(Mr. PITTENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTENGER. Last week, the Associated Press reported that unemployment in Greece rose to a record 26 percent. The news for younger workers is even worse: almost 60 percent of those under the age of 25 are unemployed.

As we all know, the root cause of Greece’s financial and economic collapse is the runaway government spending and unsustainable debt. Eventually, the house of cards collapsed, and the results have been devastating for their citizens.

President Obama has said he will not “chase a balanced budget for the sake of balance.” Well, Mr. President, what about chasing a balanced budget for the sake of our economy, for the sake of creating jobs, for the sake of preserving Social Security and Medicare and Medicaid, and for the sake of preventing financial calamity?

The present course of trillion-dollar annual deficits and a bloated \$17 trillion debt is irresponsible. What’s taking place right now in Greece could easily be our future if we don’t act.

Mr. President, it’s time for you to realize that the best way to help hard-working, tax-paying American families is to balance the budget and free our economy from the burden of our debt.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair reminds the gentleman to address his remarks to the Chair.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair

declares the House in recess until approximately 5 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o’clock and 15 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1704

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HOLDING) at 5 o’clock and 4 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

AUTHORIZING USE OF CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR NATIONAL PEACE OFFICERS’ MEMORIAL SERVICE

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 18) authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers’ Memorial Service.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 18

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

SECTION 1. USE OF THE CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR NATIONAL PEACE OFFICERS’ MEMORIAL SERVICE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Grand Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police and its auxiliary (in this resolution referred to as the “sponsor”) shall be permitted to sponsor a public event, the 32nd Annual National Peace Officers’ Memorial Service (in this resolution referred to as the “event”), on the Capitol Grounds, in order to honor the law enforcement officers who died in the line of duty during 2012.

(b) DATE OF EVENT.—The event shall be held on May 15, 2013, or on such other date as the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate jointly designate.

SEC. 2. TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Under conditions to be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board, the event shall be—

(1) free of admission charge and open to the public; and

(2) arranged not to interfere with the needs of Congress.

(b) EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES.—The sponsor shall assume full responsibility for all expenses and liabilities incident to all activities associated with the event.

SEC. 3. EVENT PREPARATIONS.

Subject to the approval of the Architect of the Capitol, the sponsor is authorized to erect upon the Capitol Grounds such stage, sound amplification devices, and other re-

lated structures and equipment, as may be required for the event.

SEC. 4. ENFORCEMENT OF RESTRICTIONS.

The Capitol Police Board shall provide for enforcement of the restrictions contained in section 5104(c) of title 40, United States Code, concerning sales, advertisements, displays, and solicitations on the Capitol Grounds, as well as other restrictions applicable to the Capitol Grounds, in connection with the event.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BARLETTA) and the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. NOLAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Con. Res. 18.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H. Con. Res. 18 would authorize the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers’ Memorial Service on May 15, 2013. I am pleased to be the sponsor of this important resolution, along with the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON).

In 1962, May 15 was designated by President Kennedy as Peace Officers’ Memorial Day and the week in which it falls as Police Week. The memorial service began in 1982 as a gathering in Senate Park of just 120 survivors and supporters of law enforcement. Today, National Police Week draws tens of thousands of law enforcement officers and their supporters from around the world who travel to the Nation’s capital to participate in events that honor our fallen officers. The National Peace Officers’ Memorial Service, which is sponsored by the Grand Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police, is one in a series of events which includes the candlelight vigil and seminars.

Tragically, over 126 Federal, State, and local law enforcement officers were killed in the line of duty last year. These are brave men and women of law enforcement who put their lives on the line every day.

Among the fallen officers to be honored include five that served in my home State of Pennsylvania: Officer Bradley Michael Fox, who was from Plymouth Township Police Department, which is actually part of my district, Pennsylvania’s Eleventh; Trooper First Class Blake Coble, Pennsylvania State Police; Patrolman Avery Freeman, Chester Police Department; Officer Brian J. Lorenzo, Philadelphia Police Department; and Officer Moses Walker, Jr., Philadelphia Police Department.

These officers, along with more than 100 others who lost their lives in 2012, will be remembered at this service.